# Muslim Pilgrims Brave Intense Heat for Symbolic Stoning at Hajj



**Muslim Pilgrims Complete Symbolic Stoning at Hajj Amid Intense Heat**

**Mina, Saudi Arabia** – Amid soaring summer temperatures, masses of Muslim pilgrims participated in the symbolic stoning of the devil, completing one of the final rites of Hajj on June 16, 2024. The event took place in Mina, near the holy city of Mecca, and marked the beginning of Eid al-Adha celebrations globally.

Hajj, a mandatory pilgrimage for Muslims who are physically and financially capable, saw over 1.8 million participants this year. Pilgrims collected pebbles in Muzdalifa the previous night for the ritual. Fourteen Jordanian pilgrims died from sunstroke, with temperatures reaching 116.6°F in Mecca. At least 17 other Jordanians were reported missing.

Despite the heat, many pilgrims expressed relief at fulfilling their religious duties. The event saw heavy deployment of security and medical personnel to assist those affected by the extreme conditions. Saudi authorities have introduced various measures to help mitigate heat-related risks.

The Hajj concludes with the circumambulation of the Kaaba and Eid al-Adha celebrations. Muslims commemorate the willingness of Prophet Ibrahim to sacrifice his son, a ritual involving the slaughter of livestock distributed to the poor. The pilgrimage officially ends on Wednesday, June 19, 2024.